



February 26, 2020

Mrs. Beverley Eckensweiler
Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association
Box 2064, Suite 1804
20 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto, ON M4R 1K8

Dear Mrs. Eckensweiler,

I am writing to congratulate OCSTA on its 90th anniversary. Now, more than ever, as society experiences moral confusion, Ontario Catholics need a distinct school system that respects parents' rights to choose their children's principled upbringing and faith formation. Only in a truly Catholic school system can Ontarians be assured that their children will be challenged to academic excellence as well as be immersed in the seven virtues of chastity, temperance, charity, diligence, patience, kindness, and humility. They must be in the world, but not of the world, clinging always to the hope they have in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Your Association's steadfast assertion that Ontario Catholics have a constitutional right to our fair share of a publicly-funded educational system is a noble cause that some of our finest citizens have benefitted from for several generations.

I pray that you continue your excellent work and stay faithful to the Biblical principles on which our province was founded.

In nomine Jesu,

✠ Terrence Prendergast, S.J.
Archbishop of Ottawa
Bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall